MEMORANDUM FOR:

25X1

    Attached is the agenda and related papers
that we have disseminated in connection with
the IHC meeting on 24 Apr. 74.

Acting Chairman
IHC

25X1

19 April 74
_____
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.   (47)

INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION HANDLING COMMITTEE
of the
UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

Office of the Chairman

IHC-MM-5/74
18 April 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: IHC Members and Alternates

I am very glad to be able to report to you that the IHC
is going to recommence meeting on a regular basis. A signifi-
cantly increased awareness now exists at top management levels
of the size and importance of issues relating to information
handling and information science, and of the necessity to apply
this technology more effectively in serving intelligence analysts
and operational users of intelligence products.

The DCI has stated that we now face the challenge to raise
our sights from the file and retrieval aspects of information
handling to an examination of new approaches to the ways in
which machines and language can support and supplement the
human intellect in perceiving and analyzing situations. A
whole new dimension is added, taking us well beyond the common
past view of information technology. The DCI has recently
appointed a Special Assistant, _____ to address   25X1
in broadest and most imaginative terms, new dimensions that
can impact on the future manner in which the content of intel-
ligence can be conveyed and presented. Both the DCI and
25X1   _____ will join us for a portion of the forthcoming IHC
meeting.

There is a general recognition that information handling
must concern itself in depth with the present and future needs
of users of intelligence, both within and beyond the intelligence
community. User needs are the driving force to be served by
technology. Further, the evolution of ADP and telecommunications
necessitates that those two technical areas be treated integrally.
To this end, the IHC will involve itself explicitly with com-
munity telecommunications matters.

25X1

Attached is the agenda for our meeting on 24 April. Fol-
lowing the practice of my predecessor, [   ] 25X
we will schedule full committee meetings for two hour work
sessions, 1000-1200 hours. At this initial meeting, however,
I hope you will be able to be present at 0930 hours, and we
will have an informal coffee period in the office of General
Graham, D/DCI/IC, prior to moving across the hall to the
DCI's conference room to meet with Mr. Colby promptly at 1000.

The agenda and attached problem statements are forwarded
for your preliminary consideration. The four problem state-
ments that we have drafted are not intended to present you with
decisions already taken. They are, rather, intended to present
you with a frame of reference so that you may be better prepared
to offer your own comments and recommendations.

We have a very full agenda, and will probably be unable
to accomplish it all in the depth that we would like. I
particularly want to make as much time in our two hours as
possible available to the IHC members to express their own
views, not only on the four papers we are forwarding, but
particularly on what issues you consider to be the most timely
and significant that the IHC should address in order to improve
community effectiveness.

Finally, what I think is different in our present situation--
with reference to our management responsibilities in information
handling and telecommunications--is that we are now presented
with a unique opportunity. The top levels of management today
are seriously concerned with the future of these matters, and
the degree of that interest is significantly greater than it
has been in past years. There is also increasing awareness that
future planning must take account of total community needs and
impacts. The challenge for us individually and as a committee
is to find ways to make productive use of this opportunity,
and translate it into practical operational mechanisms and
techniques that serve the diversified users of intelligence
products. There is no doubt that we will be judged specifically
by that criterion.

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Acting Chairman

Atts

C O N F I D E N T I A L

IHC-A-54
18 April 1974

AGENDA

for

54th IHC Meeting
Room 7D64 (DCI Conference Room)
CIA Hqs. Bldg.
Wednesday, 24 April 1974, 1000 Hours*

1. DCI visit with the IHC - Mr. William E. Colby

2. Purpose, scope and objectives of the reconstituted
   USIB Intelligence Information Handling Committee -
   5X1 [   ] Acting Chairman, IHC

3. Comments by Special Assistant to the DCI - [   ] 25

4. New IHC working methodology - AC/IHC

   a. Meetings

   b. Organizational considerations

   c. Priorities

5. New IHC Initiatives - AC/IHC

   a. Community inventory update

   b. Community data standards program

   c. Community terminal study for improvement of:

      (1) Crisis management and indications and
      warning activities

      (2) Analytic efforts

   d. Community telecommunications study

6. IHC member roundtable - Open discussion

*Note - Coffee will served from 0930-1000 hours in Room 7E13 Hqs.,
        (Office of D/DCI/IC). Please come directly to this office.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

18 April 1974

Community Inventory Update

A. Statement of the Problem

1. The IHC has been requested to provide for the DCI
on a priority basis an updated and improved community inventory.
The most recent version was compiled by the IHC in 1972.

2. The content of the inventory encompasses ADP facilities,
computer systems, data files, computer telecommunications
facilities, and related funding parameters.

3. The IHC has been requested to provide a preliminary
response to the DCI's office by 1 May 1974, and a target date
of 1 June 1974 has been given to us for completing the project.

B. Facts Bearing on the Problem

1. The compilation of the inventory requires that such
terms as "system", "file", etc. be defined and accepted at
the outset.

2. This effort should be conducted in a manner to make
the product generally useful to all members and worth the
significant effort required to collect and analyze the infor-
mation.

C. Proposal for IHC Action

1. In order to meet a May 1st deadline, it will be neces-
sary to use the IHC as a whole as a working body to provide
the requisite inputs.

2. IHC members are requested to review, prior to the IHC
meeting on 24 April 1974, the document entitled Inventory of
Community Information Handling Systems (S), dtd 1 August 1972,
and be prepared to discuss at this meeting the initial update
of the information described therein.

3. Be prepared to discuss the addition to such a publica-
tion of file descriptions and appropriate comments on present
and planned resource allocations associated with the respective
"systems."

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Community Data Standards Program

A. Statement of the Problem

The need for a continuing data standards effort is becoming more acute as the interchange of data in machinable form becomes more common within the community and as the prospects grow greater for presenting intelligence products to consumers in machinable form.

B. Facts Bearing on the Problem

1. The Federal Standards Program, which extends to all elements of the Federal Government, makes provision for the existence of agency and department standards and for program standards, e.g., in the National Intelligence Program. The effort on Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) (under which DCID 1/15 and the IHC data standards effort fits) is assigned to the National Bureau of Standards' Institute for Computer Science and Technology.

2. At the community level, which IHC represents, definition of needs for data standards has been restricted to the exchange of data in machine-sensible form among members of the community. (Internal agency standards efforts may serve departmental as well as intelligence community standards.) Where defined needs have been satisfied, this has been done either by adopting an applicable FIPS (standards for Date and Country Code) or through making one community member the Assigned Responsible Agency (ARA) for developing a standard (e.g., the Armed Services Grade Standard by DIA).

3. The IHC Standards Panel has served to define community needs, identify FIPS which meet them or negotiate assignment of an ARA, and to review and submit proposed standards (whether FIPS or a community standard) to the IHC for adoption and USIB promulgation.

C. Proposal for IHC Action

1. Reenergize the existing Standards Panel. Request IHC members to designate or confirm Data Standards Panel representatives.

2. Draft an update of 1/15 for submission to the DCI for consideration.

3.   Direct the Data Standards Panel to mount an energetic
effort in data standardization, extending its scope to provide
for exchanges with intelligence users and interfacing systems
such as WWMCCS and tactical intelligence systems.

4.   As general guidance, the Panel will be directed to
identify and focus its efforts on specific problems which require
priority attention in order to realize significant progress in
the presentation and use of substantive intelligence and intelli-
gence management data.

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Community Terminal Study

A. Statement of the Problem

1. There currently exists within the Intelligence Community a melange of concepts, proposals and uncoordinated actions concerning the dissemination and display of collected and processed data. The problem is particularly acute in the developmental electronic information systems.

    a. If the several efforts now underway are brought to fruition, the Intelligence Community will be operating numerous separate, secure "real time" video exchange systems in a few years.

    b. Modern computer and electronic display technology, if not applied on a coordinated Community-wide basis, could result in an extensive waste of resources and actually deter efficient and effective operations.

    c. There is a risk that the intelligence analyst as well as the operational user of intelligence will be handicapped rather than helped by having forced upon him, without full understanding of his needs and modus operandi, an excessive number of individual systems each possessing its unique characteristics.

2. As a result there is a strong requirement to back off and scope this problem before individual elements of the community become so heavily committed on a single course of action, or data handling system, that they cannot be persuaded or will be unable to move toward compatibility of systems, to the extent that compatibility proves to be desirable.

3. There is at present no community-wide official focal point addressing this problem in its broadest aspects. The subject matter falls within the responsibility of the IHC.

B. Facts Bearing on the Problem

The needs stated by the highest policy levels to improve the capabilities for Crisis Management and to improve the quality and timeliness of the intelligence product make it appropriate to address this large problem as a matter of priority.

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C. Proposal for IHC Action

    1. The IHC members are requested to consider a suitable community-wide approach to give visibility to this problem.

    2. It is proposed that a 3-4 month study be undertaken to survey and report on the current status of this subject, including significant plans for future development.

        a. The study will focus primarily on the use of terminals to exchange Crisis Management information and to perform Indications and Warning functions, as well as the use of community terminals to help intelligence analysts provide more timely and useful intelligence products.

        b. The terminal study should give particular attention to user needs and the user environment. By contrast, the telecommunications study (proposed separately) focuses more particularly on communications.

    3. The study will provide a basis for recommendations to the DCI, and if appropriate, for subsequent policy level guidance to the community.

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Community Telecommunications Study

A. Statement of the Problem

25X1

1. Improved procedures and mechanisms are required for dissemination and communication of time-sensitive intelligence information to analysts and operational users. The need is based on current instructions from high policy levels to improve Crisis Management and Intelligence and Warning capabilities.

2. At present, there is no active USIB body which concerns itself with community telecommunications in support of the intelligence production and dissemination functions.

3. The IHC has taken prior initiates in this area. These include the IHC-sponsored Indications and Warning Information (IWIN) Study, and the Intelligence Data Exchange-Washington (IDEW) Study. Although both studies recommended a community-cohesive planned expansion of community telecommunications facilities, no coordinated action has been taken.

B. Facts Bearing on the Problem

1. Within the past year, ASD(I) and JCS have begun participation in IHC activities.

2. Within its area of responsibility, the IHC is the existing vehicle to focus on these broader considerations. This requires an overall community assessment of current and planned telecommunications upgradings and interfacings.

C. Proposal for IHC Action

1. The IHC members are requested to consider a suitable community-wide approach to give visibility to this problem.

    a. A study of this topic involves the collection and presentation of factual data on existing and currently

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proposed telecommunications facilities and programs
within the community as well as their planned modes
for interaction with the larger operational community.

b. Considerations of efficiency and cost/effective-
ness are involved in relation to possible upgrading of
facilities and systems.

c. An important focus is the user of these capa-
bilities. Means to maximize the value of technological
capabilities in the service of intelligence production
and dissemination to users are a key consideration.

2. In the light of these considerations, it is proposed
that the IHC undertake a 3-4 month study to survey and report
on the current status of this subject, and on the basis of
this report to make appropriate recommendations to the DCI.

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